



# Lower Deschutes River Boating Regulations & Information

Please help protect the natural resources by reducing impacts and promoting quality recreational opportunities. The following regulations/information are designed to improve the quality of the river environment.

## REFUSE, FOOD

**Food Scraps:** A tarp used as a floor will help catch food scraps and debris. Careless kitchen habits encourage ants, flies and animals. Pack out and dispose of all remains in an approved trash receptacle.

**Dish Water/Soap:** Avoid using soap if at all possible. Strain dish water through a screen to catch food particles, bag and pack out all food particles.

**Cooking Grease:** Should be contained and packed out. If buried, animals are likely to dig it up.

**Trash and food** must be packed out. Do not use toilets for trash disposal.

## BOATING SAFETY

**Life jackets** must be carried for each person aboard. Persons under the age of 13 years old are required to wear life jackets while in a boat on the water.

**Throw bags** or throw lines are a recommended safety item.

**Boating safely** is boating sober. Boating under the influence (BUI) laws apply to all water craft operations.



## GROUP SIZE

**Maximum group size** limits for launching and camping are **16** in Segments 1, 3 and 4; and **24** in Segment 2.

## CAMPFIRES/SMOKING

**No fires or charcoal usage** allowed June 1 - October 15. Propane and white gas stoves are allowed.

**Campfires, wood and charcoal fires** are allowed October 16 - May 31; they must be contained in an elevated metal fire pan with sides at least 2" high. Pack in your wood and fuel and pack out your ashes.

**Smoking** is allowed only in an enclosed structure or vehicle, in water craft on the water, or when standing in the water.

## MOTORIZED USE

**Motorized boating** is allowed between Buckhollow Creek and Macks Canyon October 1 - June 12. From Macks Canyon downriver to Heritage Landing, motors are allowed year-round except alternating Thursdays thru Sundays June 15 to Sept. 30. Closed days start Thursday June 13. For further information, contact Bureau of Land Management in Prineville at (541) 416-6700 or Oregon State Marine Board in Salem at (503) 378-8587.

## HUMAN WASTE

Beginning June 2, 2002, all overnight boaters must carry and use an approved RV dump station or SCAT machine-compatible human waste ("porta potty") pack out system. Plastic bag systems are not approved. Waste system must be set-up and available for use as soon as practical upon arrival at campsite. All waste must be disposed of at an approved waste disposal site in an approved manner. For more information, visit [www.or.blm.gov/Prineville](http://www.or.blm.gov/Prineville).

## CAMPING AND FISHING

**Leaving equipment, trash, etc.** after departing any site is prohibited.



**Unauthorized use:** River islands and the Warm Springs Reservation are closed to camping. Camping is allowed on public lands

unless otherwise posted. Respect private property. No Trespassing.

**Quiet hours:** Be courteous and observe quiet hours from 10 PM to 7 AM.

**Minimize impacts:** Impacts left by altering campsites, damaging or gathering of live or dead plant life are prohibited. Please leave natural resources as they are and respect wildlife. (These and other prohibitions may be punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment.)

**All River Users** are responsible for adhering to restrictions protecting steelhead spawning/rearing areas from March 15-July 15. Restrictions will be posted at key launch/access points.

# SAFETY

- ✓ Carry a whistle and fully equipped first aid kit.
- ✓ Scout rapids and always be prepared for the unexpected.
- ✓ Don't overload boats with more gear and people than your watercraft is capable of.
- ✓ Secure gear and avoid loose ropes or straps.
- ✓ Always carry throw lines and know how to use them.
- ✓ If you fall into the water, face downstream on your back with your feet in front of you. Back stroke toward the direction you want to go.
- ✓ Vehicle traffic is limited to vehicles designed to carry 25 passengers or less on the BLM access roads from the Locked Gate to Macks Canyon and also into Mecca Flat and Trout Creek.
- ✓ Be sure your guide or outfitter is legal and permitted by the Bureau of Land Management. To report illegal guides, call 1-800-333-7283.

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOWER DESCHUTES RIVER CONTACT:

Bureau of Land Management  
Prineville District Office  
3050 NE 3rd Street  
Prineville, OR 97754  
(541) 416-6700  
[www.or.blm.gov/Prineville](http://www.or.blm.gov/Prineville)

Confederated Tribes of the  
Warm Springs Reservation  
PO Box C  
Warm Springs, OR 97761  
(541) 553-1161

Oregon Parks and Recreation  
1115 Commercial St. NE, Suite 1  
Salem, OR 97301-1002  
(503) 378-4168

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
PO Box 59  
Portland, OR 97207  
(503) 872-5268

Oregon State Marine Board  
435 Commercial Street NE  
Salem, OR 97309  
(503) 378-8587

## To Report an INCIDENT call:

BLM Fire Dispatch:	(541) 416-6800
Southern Wasco County Ambulance Service (Maupin)	(541) 395-2500
Jefferson County Sheriff	(541) 475-2201
Wasco County Sheriff	(541) 296-5454
Sherman County Sheriff	(541) 565-3622
Oregon State Police, Bend	(541) 388-6300
Oregon State Police, Madras	(541) 475-3848
Oregon State Police, The Dalles	(541) 296-2161